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CONNECTICUT WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL REPORT

The latest news and updates in Connecticut agriculture

Brought to you by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Version en español disponible en línea en CTGrown.gov.

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To celebrate Connecticut's maple season, Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz joined Department of Agriculture Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt, and other officials for the 2022 ceremonial maple tapping at the Capitol in Hartford today. The event is a precursor to Maple Weekend, March 19-20. For details visit CTMaple.org.

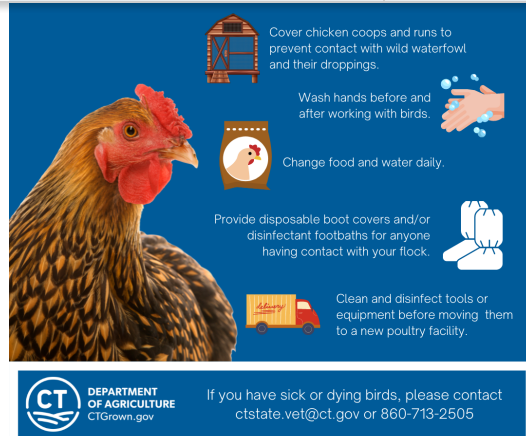
What is it?



- AI is a virus carried by migratory waterfowl (ducks and geese).
- Domestic poultry (chickens, turkeys, fowl) are susceptible and will become very sick.
- The virus is believed to originate in Eurasia and spread into Canada and the Atlantic Flyway through wild geese and ducks.
- Migratory bird flyways cross the United States. Connecticut is in the Atlantic Flyway.

CT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CTGrown.gov

If you have sick or dying birds, please contact
ctstate.vet@ct.gov or 860-713-2505



- Cover chicken coops and runs to prevent contact with wild waterfowl and their droppings.
- Wash hands before and after working with birds.
- Change food and water daily.
- Provide disposable boot covers and/or disinfectant footbaths for anyone having contact with your flock.
- Clean and disinfect tools or equipment before moving them to a new poultry facility.

CT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CTGrown.gov

If you have sick or dying birds, please contact
ctstate.vet@ct.gov or 860-713-2505

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Detected in Non-Commercial Backyard Flock in New London County

Poultry producers and hobbyists encouraged to practice biosecurity measures to prevent spread of the disease

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (CT DoAg) announced Wednesday, March 2, 2022, that it is working closely with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) on a joint incident response after confirmation of highly pathogenic avian influenza in a non-commercial backyard flock (non-poultry) in New London County.

Avian influenza does not present an immediate public health concern. No human cases of this particular strain of avian influenza virus have been detected in the United States. As a reminder, the proper handling and cooking of poultry and eggs to an internal temperature of 165°F kills bacteria and viruses. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, recent detections of this strain of influenza in birds in Connecticut and several other states present a low risk to the public.

Connecticut State Veterinarian Dr. Jane Lewis said that samples were sent to the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Lab (CVMDL) for testing. The results from CVMDL were then confirmed by the USDA National Veterinary Services Laboratories in Ames, Iowa.

CT DoAg animal health officials have quarantined the affected premises, and birds on the property have been depopulated to prevent further disease spread. Birds from the flock will not enter the food system. Per USDA guidance, CT DoAg has established a 10-kilometer surveillance zone around the detected property to monitor area flocks.

This announcement is a reminder for those involved in poultry production to increase biosecurity measures to prevent their flocks from becoming infected. All poultry producers, from small backyard to large commercial operations, should review their biosecurity plans and take precautions to protect their birds.

- Discourage unnecessary visitors and use biosecurity signs to warn people not to enter buildings without permission.
- Ask all visitors if they have had any contact with any birds in the past five days.
- Forbid entry to employees and visitors who own any kind of fowl.
- Require all visitors to cover and disinfect all footwear.
- Lock all entrances to chicken houses after hours.
- Avoid non-essential vehicular traffic on-farm.
- After hauling birds to processors, clean and disinfect poultry transport coops and vehicles before they return to the farm.
- Report anything unusual, especially sick or dead birds, to CT DoAg at 860-713-2505 or ctstate.vet@ct.gov.

In addition to practicing good biosecurity, poultry owners should keep their birds away from wild ducks and geese and their droppings. Outdoor access for poultry should be limited at this time.


To report sick birds, unexplained high number of deaths, or sudden drop in egg production, please contact Connecticut State Veterinarian at 860-713-2505 or ctstate.vet@ct.gov, or the USDA at 866-536-7593.

Connecticut ranks first in New England for egg production and has a very diverse poultry industry.



PROPOSED CENTER FOR FOOD INNOVATION SEEKS COMMUNITY INPUT

Agriculture is a \$5 billion industry for Connecticut according to [a study by Farm Credit East](#). Food-producing sectors of agriculture, which exclude industries

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<p>and/or out-of-state, the total economic impact of all food manufacturing in Connecticut exceeds \$8.3 billion.</p> <p>Despite making up a hefty share of the state's economy, at present, Connecticut's food entrepreneurs do not have a resource to help them establish and innovate with their small businesses.</p> <p>The University of Connecticut (UConn) is exploring the creation of a Center for Agriculture and Food Innovation to help businesses in this sector. This center will support startups and established food manufacturers, farm-based or otherwise, looking to expand and innovate with their products.</p> <p>"UConn is a committed partner in the state's goals – from economic development to preparing a workforce for the future," says Interim President Radenka Maric. "This Center could serve as another opportunity for UConn to support growing Connecticut businesses."</p> <p>UConn's College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources (CAHNR) is leading efforts related to the potential Center and this effort <u>to gain feedback from the business community through this survey</u>.</p> <p>"In many ways, UConn already serves as a central resource on both agricultural science and business," says Dean Indrajeet Chaubey from the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources. "We're looking to expand our efforts to help food entrepreneurs succeed and support economic development in the state."</p> <p>This work is a collaboration between CAHNR, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, and the UConn School of Business.</p> <p>"This would be the next step in integrating key systems to accelerate business growth while engaging agricultural producers and food manufacturers," says Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt of Connecticut Department of Agriculture. "Providing the resources and training in this manner will not only beneficially impact the producers and manufacturers, but our food system and communities as a whole."</p> <p>The team behind this effort has developed a survey for food manufacturers, including pet food companies, wineries, and breweries to assess their needs and help inform the development of a potential innovation center.</p> <p>The survey will take approximately five to 10 minutes and can be completed on a smart phone, computer, or other device with internet access.</p> <p>UConn seeks to expand support for food-focused businesses in product development, quality control, entrepreneurship training, navigating regulatory requirements, and other R&D needs, says Chaubey.</p> <p>"CAHNR is committed to the development of a vibrant and sustainable agricultural industry and food system. These efforts are an extension of our ongoing mission to serve residents and businesses in our state," says Chaubey.</p> <p><u>Click here to complete the survey</u>.</p>			

CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS

[UConn exploring creation of a Center for Ag and Food Innovation](#), HBJ, 3/3
[First bird flu case found in CT; outbreak dots eastern US](#), Capital Press, 3/3
[Maple syrup production underway at Auer Farm in Bloomfield](#), WFSB, 2/28



2022 AGRICULTURE APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN TO EXHIBIT AT THE CONNECTICUT BUILDING AT BIG E

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) is now accepting vendor applications for the agriculture booth spaces in the Connecticut Building at [The Big E](#), September 16-October 2, 2022, with the purpose of providing Connecticut farms, small agricultural businesses, and agricultural non-profit organizations the opportunity to market and promote their products and/or service.

This is a unique opportunity for agricultural businesses, non-profits, and other entities with an agricultural mission to showcase the diversity of Connecticut agriculture to over one million attendees who come through the Connecticut Building. Connecticut Day will take place on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, and Harvest New England Day will be held on Friday, September 30, 2022.

Interested applicants are encouraged to review the exhibitor guidelines, and submit a completed application by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2022. Licensed Connecticut farm wineries interested in having their wines available by the glass will be receiving a separate application to participate.

[Guidelines and Application here.](#)

For more information, please contact Rebecca Eddy at Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov, or 860-573-0323.

USDA VALUE-ADDED PRODUCER GRANTS PROGRAM

The Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) program helps agricultural producers enter into value-added activities related to the processing and marketing of new

You may receive priority if you are a beginning farmer or rancher, a socially-disadvantaged farmer or rancher, a small or medium-sized farm or ranch structured as a family farm, a farmer or rancher cooperative, or are proposing a mid-tier value chain.

Grants are awarded through a national competition. Each fiscal year, applications are requested through a notice published in the [Federal Register](#) and through an announcement posted on [Grants.gov](#). Program Period varies for **paper applications which must be postmarked by May 2, 2022. Applications are permitted via Grants.gov and must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time on April 25, 2022.**

For more information follow the link below.

[Learn More](#)

CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE DAY RETURNS IN PERSON

The Connecticut Agricultural Information Council (CAIC) announces that Connecticut Agriculture Day will be held on Friday, March 25, 2022, in-person at a new location due to current restrictions still activated in the Capitol. Ag Day will be held at the Governor William A. O'Neill State Armory, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Agricultural non-profits, agricultural producer associations, agricultural cooperatives, federal and state agricultural agencies, and Connecticut municipalities are invited to register for a tabling space and encouraged to offer product samples that showcase Connecticut agriculture to state and legislative officials. [Register online by March 4, 2022.](#)

For more information on participating in Ag Day, contact Rebecca Eddy at Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov or 860-573-0323.

BEER, WINE, AND SPIRITS BUYERS MISSION

Are you seeking new growth opportunities for your business? The Connecticut Department of Agriculture partners with Food Export USA–Northeast (Food Export–Northeast), a non-profit organization that assists U.S. companies looking to start or expand export sales. Through this partnership, we aim to maximize your success through programs and services in Export Education, Market Entry, and Market Promotion.

Food Export Northeast provides market intelligence, education, assistance, tools, and financial support for novice to seasoned U.S. food companies that

Currently, we are seeking Connecticut companies for participation in the **Beer, Wine, and Spirits Buyers Mission at the National Restaurant Association Show taking place in Chicago on May 22, 2022**. Hosted by Food Export Midwest in partnership with the National Restaurant Association the show attracts over 4,000 exhibitors and 40,000 attendees and is your opportunity to develop and expand your business with international buyers who have expressed interest in a variety of U.S. products, including wine, beer, spirits, and cocktail ingredients.

You'll have the opportunity to meet with up to eleven (11) pre-qualified buyers from around the world in pre-arranged, one-on-one meetings right here in the U.S., generate new sales leads, and build relationships with key industry players! It's the perfect low-cost opportunity to meet qualified buyers from around the world in one place!

The early registration fee is \$300.00 and you must have a National Restaurant Association Show badge to participate in this Buyers Mission.

For questions or more information, please contact Erin Windham with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture at Erin.Windham@ct.gov or 860-519-6083.

Specialty Crop Block Grant Now Open



CONNECTICUT SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) is now accepting applications for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP) for the 2022 program year. Funding priorities include strengthening and improving food systems, improving food

10, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. to AGR.grants@ct.gov.

Eligible applicants include commodity groups, agricultural organizations, colleges and universities, municipalities, state agencies, and agricultural nonprofits. Projects must benefit the industry as a whole and not a single organization, business, or commercial product. As a result, individual farms or businesses are encouraged to apply and partner with other eligible applicants rather than apply themselves. This is a reimbursement grant with awards up to \$99,999.

The goal of the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program is to solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops in domestic and foreign markets. Specialty crops are defined as any fruit or vegetable, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops, including floriculture. Also included is honey, maple syrup, Christmas trees and processed foods/food products which are made of at least 50% specialty crops (excluding added water). An eligible plant must be intensively cultivated and used by people for food, medicinal purposes, and/or aesthetic gratification to be considered a specialty crop.

For more information on the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, please visit the website, <http://www.ctgrown.gov/grants> and click on Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, or contact Rebecca Eddy at Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov or 860-573-0323.

NEW VERSIONS OF MSPA CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRATION REQUIRED AFTER MARCH 31, 2022

On October 18, 2021, the Wage and Hour Division (WHD) published three new forms for Farm Labor Contractors (FLCs) and Farm Labor Contractor Employees (FLCEs) to use to apply for or update their Certificates of Registration. WHD developed these forms in order to provide applicants and their representatives with clarification on required fields and documents and feature expanded instructions to guide applicants through the registration process. There are now three different forms, each of which serves a different purpose and all of which can be found on this [website](#):

- Form [WH-530](#) should be used for [FLCs](#) to apply for initial or renewal Certificates of Registration;
- Form [WH-535](#) should be used for [FLCEs](#) to apply for initial or renewal Certificates of Registration; and
- Form [WH-540](#) should be used for both FLCs and FLCEs to amend a valid Certificate of Registration.

In addition, WHD launched a new [website](#) to assist applicants with Certificate Registration. This website includes brief webinars, frequently asked questions, and other resources. If you have any questions about the new forms, we encourage you to first review the resources on this website and the instructions on the form. **If you continue to have questions, please contact us at (415) 241-3505 or MSPAFLC@dol.gov.**

PURCHASE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LFPA)

The USDA recently announced the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program (LFPA). The purpose of this program is to maintain and improve food and agricultural supply chain resiliency by:

1. supporting local producers and socially disadvantaged producers* through building and expanding economic opportunity, and
2. establishing and broadening partnerships with producers, the food distribution community, and local food networks to ensure distribution of fresh and nutritious foods to underserved communities.**

More details on the program can be found on the USDA's website and through reading the complete request for applications (RFA).

The CT Department of Agriculture (DoAg) will administer \$2.64 million of the total \$4.4 million, while CT's two federally recognized tribes will administer the remainder. Outlined below is DoAg's preliminary plan for administration of the allocated funding. To ensure the agency is aware of the needs of those engaged in the program and for which the program serves, CT DoAg is soliciting comments, feedback, or suggestions for improvement to the proposed utilization of funds no later than **Tuesday, March 15, 2022**. We strongly value your opinion and will consider all feedback in the final plan.

Please review DoAg's plan for program funds on DoAg's LFPA page and submit your comments using this form FORM TO SUBMIT COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

*If you are a CT farmer of any size, years of experience, and/or produce value-added products using CT Grown ingredients interested in selling product through this program, please also complete THE PRODUCER INTEREST FORM. *

For any questions, please reach out to Cyrena.Thibodeau@ct.gov or 860-895-3094

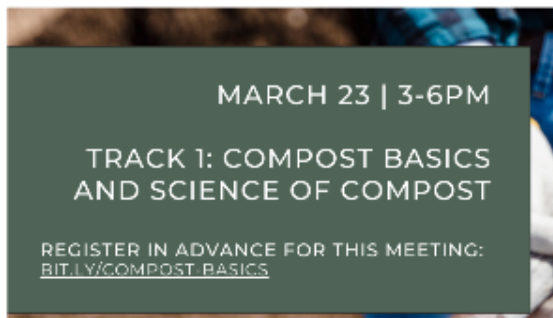
2022 Connecticut Compost Webinar Series



MARCH 30 | 3-6PM

TRACK 2: ON-FARM
COMPOSTING AND
BIOCHAR IN COMPOST

REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS MEETING:
[BIT.LY/ON-FARM-COMPOSTING](https://bit.ly/on-farm-composting)



MARCH 23 | 3-6PM

TRACK 1: COMPOST BASICS
AND SCIENCE OF COMPOST

REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS MEETING:
[BIT.LY/COMPOST-BASICS](https://bit.ly/compost-basics)



APRIL 6 | 3-6PM

TRACK 3: LARGE MUNICIPAL &
COMMERCIAL SCALE
COMPOSTING

REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS MEETING:
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/MUN-STATE-COMPOSTING](https://bit.ly/mun-state-composting)

This program is made possible by our planning partners.



MORE INFO: WWW.CTRCD.ORG/CONNECTICUT-COMPOST-WEBINAR

2022 CONNECTICUT COMPOST WEBINAR SERIES

SESSION 1: Compost Webinar: Composting Basics and the Science of Compost

Register in advance for this meeting.

Mar 23, 2022 03:00 to 6:00 p.m.

SESSION 2: Compost Series: Farm Composting/BioChar in Compost

Register in advance for this meeting.

Mar 30, 2022 03:00 to 6:00 p.m.

SESSION 3: Compost Series: Large/Municipal and Commercial Scale Composting

Register in advance for this meeting.

Apr 6, 2022 03:00 PM to 6:00 p.m.



USDA, CORNELL HOST FIRST NATIONAL HEMP WEBINAR SERIES

Lectures will be given by various hemp research experts from academia, research laboratories, production facilities, and private industry:

- March 9 – Extraction Chemistry/Facility Design: Alisia Ratliff
- March 23 – The Endocannabinoid System: Ethan Russo M.D
- April 6 – Hemp Food Science: Hunter Friedland
- April 20 – Hemp Diversity/Genetics: Dr. Daniela Vergara
- May 4 – Economics of Hemp Production: Dr. Tyler Mark

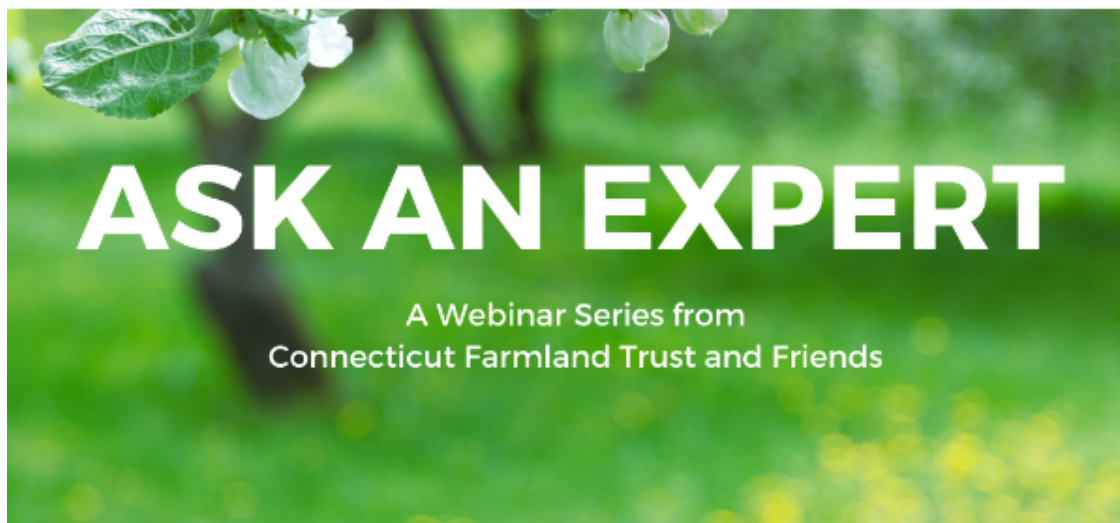
The webinars will occur every other Wednesday from 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. EST and include an interactive Q&A session. Registration is required.



CONNECTICUT GROWN PRODUCER SURVEY

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is seeking producer feedback on the 2021 CT Grown campaign. The short survey will take approximately three minutes to complete. We value and appreciate your input as we work together to strengthen CT Grown.

If you are looking for more information on adding events, downloading the new CT Grown logo, adding your farm to the interactive map please visit www.CTGrown.org.



WEBINAR SERIES FROM CONNECTICUT FARMLAND TRUST AND FRIENDS

Join CFT staff and their guests from the comfort of your home or office for information and education. The series will catch you up on what we've been up to, and you'll hear from outside experts too, farmers and scientists, regarding current events in agriculture. Ask them your burning questions. We'll have good conversations. For you, there is no charge to attend, *but you must pre-register to receive the live webinar link*. Each webinar has a unique Zoom link you will receive when you sign up.

While We Were Still Working From Our Dining Rooms: 2021 Accomplishments

We may have been working from our dining rooms, but you helped us preserve seven farms and help farmers connect to farmland. Come hear about the farms you helped CFT protect in 2021.

Monday, March 7, 12-1 p.m. or Tuesday, March 8, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Future of CT Food: Two Farmers' Perspectives

What happens when you bring together two engaging, inspirational yet down-to-earth farmers to talk about CT food and farming trends in CT? **You learn something new.**

Thursday, March 10, 12-1 p.m.

Farmlink: The Future of Finding Farmland

A 2017 survey done by The National Young Farmers Coalition found land access to be the number one challenge that young farmers and ranchers face.

Tuesday, March 15, 12-1 p.m.

Climate Change means Farming (and Food) Will Change

Thursday, March 17, 12-1 p.m.



MARCH 8 | 2022 | 1-2 PM

ACCESS 2 AG BUS TOUR

Come see how the interactive screens work.





ACCESS TO AGRICULTURE



Access to Agriculture is an on-board information system to help transit riders easily locate nourishing food locally grown in Connecticut's Windham and Estuary Shoreline Transit regions.

The cell phone app brings a person to a map with information in each region on how they can more readily access local food.

The map highlights points of access to farm products or produce such as a farmstand, a local grocer or Big Y Your Family Market.

Come see how it works!



Covid protocols will be followed based on the Transit District requirements.

LOCATION:

Estuary Transit District, 17 Industrial Park Rd, Suite 6, Centerbrook, CT

RSVP: Outreach@ctrctd.org







2022 FARM TRANSITION GRANT AVAILABLE

The 2022 Farm Transition Grant (FTG) is now available at www.CTGrown.gov/grants. **Applications will be accepted until March 8, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.**

The 2022 program will again provide matching funds to Connecticut farmers and agricultural cooperatives for the diversification of existing farm operations,

Grant guidelines and forms can be found at www.CTGrown.gov/grants. Additional detail on match requirements and eligible expenses can be found in the guidance. All applications will be submitted electronically via the new [DoAg Grants Portal](#). Questions regarding the Farm Transition Grant can be directed to Alison Grabarz at Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov.

NRCS ANNOUNCES URBAN AGRICULTURE INITIATIVE IN CONNECTICUT

Thomas L. Morgart, State Conservationist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, has announced the agency is rolling out its Urban Agriculture Initiative in Connecticut and **will be accepting applications for FY2022 funding through March 18, 2022.**

Urban agriculture pioneers are taking action in their communities growing not only fresh, healthy produce, but increasing opportunity and knowledge and improving the beauty of their neighborhoods. Through this initiative, NRCS will help urban farmers care for the natural resources on their land – soil, water, air, plants, and animals by addressing soil health, irrigation and water conservation, weeds and pests, and high tunnels.

For more information visit the link below.

[Learn More](#)

ADD YOUR BUSINESS TO CT GROWN MAP

The Department of Agriculture, in coordination with CT NOFA, offers a variety of online listings on the [CT Grown Map](#) page. All agricultural businesses, farm stands, and farmers' markets are welcome to apply. There is no fee to participate and applications are accepted year round. To apply to be listed, visit the [CT Grown Map Google Form](#).

Ag Market Pricing

[Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT](#)
Prices provided on February 28, 2022

[New Holland Dairy Auction - New Holland, PA](#)

[CT Farmers' Market Prices](#)
Prices provided on October 22, 2021

[New Holland, PA Hay Report](#)

[Northeast Regional Eggs](#)

[USDA Mexico Canada Weekly Update](#)

[Pennsylvania Weekly Cattle Auction Summary](#)

[Wholesale Ornamental Flowers - Boston](#)

[Pennsylvania Livestock Auction - Eighty Four, PA](#)

Advertisements

For Sale

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. [Sonpal's Power Fence](#) 860-491-2290.

50-R. The SIG Insurance Agencies offer a wide range of carriers, can save you up to 23% on your farm insurance and provide better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call us for all your insurance needs with locations in CT, RI, NY and NH. Contact our AG department at 866-346-3744, option 4.

54-R. Transplanters, vacuum seeders, fertilizer applicators, garlic and potato planters and harvesters. High quality Italian-made precision equipment for the vegetable, tobacco, hemp, fruit, and floral markets. Call or email us today for details. Griffin Farm Equipment, LLC. 860-508-2426, Griffinfarm@aol.com; www.griffinfarmtools.com

55-R. 250 Bales clean golden yellow rye straw, cut 6/1, large bales. 203-506-6318.

22-1. Honeybees: 5-frame Deep nucs only, available first week May. Jones Apiaries, LLC, 860-677-9391.

22-3. SnowBlower – 48" PTO. Like new only used twice \$3,095 new. Asking \$2,500 best offer. 860-604-3452

22-4. Orchard Berry Farm – Sold. Many pieces of equipment and tractors for sale. 860-488-0324.

22-5. Lynn Blackmer, your local Nationwide Farm Insurance agent. AFIS Certified. Nationwide Farm Master Certified. Serving CT, RI & MA. Any type/size farm. CT Farm Bureau members may qualify for discount. Cell: 860-377-8947 lblackmer@caluoriinsurance.com Appointments available any time.

Wanted

Job Opportunities

The State of Connecticut, Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Regulatory Services' State Animal Control Unit has an available position for a State Animal Control Officer. In this position you will be accountable for independently performing a full range of tasks in the enforcement and education of laws and regulations pertaining to the control and proper care of domestic, companion and exotic animals.

For more information, please review the job description here: <https://www.jobapscloud.com/CT/sup/bulpreview.asp?R1=220228&R2=1405PS&R3=001>. Closing date: March 16, 2022

Interested in Advertising? Click [here](#) for details on rates and submission.

Upcoming Events (click on image below for info)

SOLID GROUND

A Program Of UConn Extension

AGROECOLOGY SERIES

ON-FARM COMPOSTING



TUESDAY JANUARY 25TH, 2022
6:30-8PM ON ZOOM [REGISTER HERE](#)
PRESENTERS: YOKO TAKEMURA + ALEX CARPENTER
ASSAWAGA FARM

Building biologically active compost on small farms. Yoko and Alex will share their composting system, which uses very basic tools with a low starting cost. This method produces high quality compost that is used in small amounts for ongoing inoculation of the soil rather than to boost OM% or add significant amounts of nutrients. It is also excellent material to make compost extracts, teas and/or feeding worm bins.

NO-TILL FIELD DAY

← SATURDAY MARCH 26TH, 2022
← [REGISTER HERE](#) 1:00-4:00PM
TOBACCO ROAD FARM - LEBANON, CT
PRESENTER: BRYAN O'HARA
AUTHOR: NO-TILL INTENSIVE VEGETABLE CULTURE

Bryan will provide mountains of details on agricultural techniques and will also demonstrate specific equipment adopted for No-Till operations. These specialized tools will be absolutely game changing for saving on labor and maximizing efficiencies on your farm.



ECOLOGICAL GROWING



SATURDAY APRIL 2ND, 2022
1:00-3:00PM [REGISTER HERE](#)
HIGH HILL ORCHARD - MERIDEN, CT
PRESENTER: WAYNE YOUNG

Explore how ecological growing can be implemented to support reduced or no pesticides use operations. Learn how building soil health leverages other natural systems in order to manage pests and environmental challenges.

These trainings are supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under award number 2020-79017-32735.






WEBINAR 1
Assessing soil health:
What is the status of my soil health?
Tuesday, February 15
Speaker: Kirsten Kurtz (Cornell Soil Health Lab)

WEBINAR 2
The value of soil health:
soil, plant, and animal interactions
Tuesday, March 22
Speakers: Sam Corcoran (UMass Extension)
Joe Emenheiser (UConn Extension)

WEBINAR 3
Creating meaningful soil health change:
What can I do to make positive changes to my soil health?
Tuesday, April 19
Speakers: Kaitlin Farbotnik (NJ NRCS)
Matthew Denton (Soil Health Division, NRCS)

All webinars will be held from 10 am to 12 noon

Webinars are open to service providers and farmers and will be comprised of time for instruction in addition to interactive breakout sessions. Partaking in all webinars is encouraged, but not required. For more information, visit <https://livestock.extension.uconn.edu/> or contact Rachel Bispuda, Project Director at rachel.bispuda@uconn.edu

REGISTER HERE - s.uconn.edu/regsaespring22



This material is based upon work supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, through the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program under subaward number 586222-001 CT-94268

A WEBINAR SERIES

Join us this season to talk about the different stressors that farmers face in Connecticut and the ways your fellow farmers are managing them. This webinar series is open to all, but all participants will be completely anonymous to other attendees. Feel free to submit questions and thoughts ahead of time to Rebecca.Toms@UConn.edu



You're Not Perfect:
The Myth of the Perfect Farm and Celebrating your Successes
February 16th, 7PM-8:30 PM
With: Jen Salinetti, Woven Roots Farm, Tyringham, MA

What it's Like: What to Expect if You Want to See a Therapist
March 8th, 7PM- 8:30 PM
A conversation with Alana DiPesa, LCSW and Becca Toms

Farm Talk: Sharing Common Stressors Among CT farmers
March 1 from 10:30AM- 12PM
A panel discussion with Lauren Little, Steve Munno, and Andromeda Macri

Register at:
<https://newfarms.uconn.edu/solidground/>

Brought to you by:



THIS WORK IS SUPPORTED BY THE 2021 SDA FARMER RANCHER STRESS ASSISTANCE GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



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